

**January 9, 2014**  
**CONTAMINATED WATER INCIDENT (as of 19:30)**

**INVOLVED CHEMICAL:**

Reported to be 4-methylcyclohexane methanol

CAS: 34885-03-5

Multiple other synonyms

**DOSE:**

Unknown at this time how much went into the water system. Dilution will limit the exposure but without specific information regarding the leak/spill, the actual dose is unknown.

There may also be a lag between when the chemical entered the water and when that water appears in homes and businesses.

**TOXICITY:**

No information is available for this chemical. Based on the chemical's structure, it is assumed that it may have the properties of higher alcohols and/or phenol-like solvents.

The WV Poison Center will update this information if more becomes available.

**SYMPTOMS:**

Assuming the above, symptoms would be expected to occur shortly after exposure. Therefore, if there are no symptoms, and water has been used for bathing, teeth brushing, or drinking during the day today, it is likely that no acute symptoms will develop.

Skin irritation is possible

Vomiting is possible

CNS depression if a large exposure

Whether or not the above occurs would depend on dose and individual sensitivity.

It is important to note that unusual smells, odors, and taste can cause nausea and headaches. These symptoms are not due to toxic effects but are a response to unusual smells/tastes.

**CURRENT TRIAGE RECOMMENDATIONS (19:30 01-09-14):**

If no symptoms are present, do nothing and follow recommendations not to use the water for drinking or bathing.

If mild symptoms are present (mild skin irritation, mild vomiting), the Poison Center is attempting to manage these cases at home.

If callers are reporting significant symptoms, the Poison Center is referring these individuals in.

If callers are reporting symptoms that are likely related to a medical event, the Poison Center is referring these individuals in.

**HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Please let the Poison Center know about these cases.

Treatment is symptomatic and supportive. There is no specific/antidotal treatment.

Ensure that a co-existing or coincidental medical event is not occurring.